

Application and Testimonials


IN FAVOUR OF

WILLIAM R. JACK

B.Sc., M.D., C.M., F.F.P.S.G.

FOR

*THE POST OF ASSISTANT PHYSICIAN
TO THE WESTERN INFIRMARY*



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43 LANSDOWNE CRESCENT,

GLASGOW, *June*, 1907.

*TO THE MANAGERS OF
THE WESTERN INFIRMARY.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my application for the post of Assistant Physician to the Western Infirmary.

I have been connected with the Glasgow School of Medicine throughout the whole of my professional life. I studied here, taking the degree of B.Sc. in 1887, and those of M.B., C.M., in 1889, when, as first of my year, I obtained the Brunton Memorial Prize. I was thereafter for six months House Physician in the wards of Dr. M'Call Anderson at the Western Infirmary, and I subsequently studied for two years upon the Continent, visiting the hospitals of Berlin, Vienna, and Paris.

I returned to Glasgow in 1892, after which I was for two Summer Sessions engaged as Junior Assistant to the Professor of Physiology in the University. In May, 1894, I was appointed Assistant Physician to the Glasgow Hospital for Skin Diseases, a post which I held to the statutory limit of three years. In October, 1894, I was appointed Assistant to Dr. M'Call Anderson, then Professor of Clinical Medicine, in his wards at the Infirmary, and I still continue to assist him in the teaching of his Clinical Class. In November of that year I took the degree of M.D. of the University of Glasgow, obtaining honours for my thesis "On the Analysis of Voluntary Muscular Movements," an abstract of which

appeared in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*, vol. 57, and which in 1896 gained the Dill Prize for the best thesis of the last three years.

In 1897, after passing the required examinations, I was admitted a Fellow of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. In 1899 I published a translation of Pollack's *Methods of Staining the Nervous System*, which was favourably received by the medical reviews. In 1900 I became Assistant to the Professor of Practice of Medicine at the University, a post which I still hold. In 1903 I published a revised and enlarged edition of Wheeler's *Medicine and Therapeutics*, a small text-book which was also favourably noticed by the reviews. The work has proved so successful that I am now engaged upon the preparation of a third edition, which will very shortly appear.

I have had a long connection with the Western Infirmary. At the beginning of the year 1895, I was appointed Extra Dispensary Physician, and three years later I was appointed full Physician to the Dispensary, an office which I vacated in December, 1904, at the end of the term attached to it of seven years' service. At that time I was Senior Dispensary Physician. I was thus attached to the Staff of the Institution for a period of ten years. During that period I devoted the greater portion of my time to hospital work and to the work of teaching, both as Assistant to the Professor of Medicine and in my own clinique in the Dispensary. I had also experience of the management of cases in the wards, and I am therefore familiar with the duties of an Assistant Physician. I am still, as Assistant to Sir Thomas M'Call Anderson, in constant touch with the wards. As the result of twelve years' experience, I can claim considerable familiarity with the methods of clinical teaching and clinical work, and since 1900 I have had experience in the teaching of a systematic class. Throughout the whole time I have been in almost daily contact both with out-door and with in-door patients.

I append two testimonials in support of my candidature, and, with his permission, one given to me by Professor M'Kendrick for another application.

Should I have the honour to be elected to the vacant post, I shall endeavour to discharge its duties to the best of my ability.

I have the honour to be,

GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM R. JACK.

List of Medical Publications.

"On the Analysis of Voluntary Muscular Movements," *Journal of Anatomy and Physiology*, 1894. Abstract in *Proceedings of Royal Society*, vol. 57.

"On the *Maladie des Tics*," *Transactions of Glasgow Medico-Chirurgical Society*, 1897.

Methods of Staining the Nervous System, Pollack, translated from the second German edition, 1899. Pp. 143.

"Congenital Stenosis of the Pulmonic Valve," *Transactions of Glasgow Medico-Chirurgical Society*, 1902.

"Dilatation of the Superficial Abdominal and Thoracic Veins without evident Cause," *Transactions of the Glasgow Medico-Chirurgical Society*, 1902.

Wheeler's *Handbook of Medicine and Therapeutics*, second edition, revised and enlarged, 1903. Pp. 432.

[Third edition in the Press.

From SIR THOMAS M'CALL ANDERSON, *Regius Professor
of Medicine, University of Glasgow.*

9 THE UNIVERSITY,
GLASGOW, *June, 1907.*

IT affords me much pleasure to state that, in my opinion, DR. WILLIAM R. JACK is extremely well qualified for the position of Assistant Physician to the Western Infirmary.

His University record could hardly be surpassed. In 1887 he took the degree of Bachelor of Science, and in 1889 those of Bachelor of Medicine and Master of Surgery, and was awarded the Brunton Memorial Prize as the most distinguished graduate of his year. Again in 1894 he took the degree of Doctor of Medicine "With Honours" for his Thesis, and in 1896 the Dill Prize was gained by him for the best Thesis of the last three years.

His other contributions to medical literature have been numerous and varied, including a translation of Pollack's *Methods of Staining the Nervous System*, and the revision of the new edition of *Wheeler's Handbook of Medicine*, both of which have been received with much favour.

Since 1895 he has been almost continuously on the staff of the Infirmary, and has repeatedly taken charge of my Medical Wards during my absence, and discharged all the duties to my entire satisfaction.

In the year 1894 he was appointed Medical Tutor in connection with my Wards in the Infirmary, a position which he has held ever since, as well as, latterly, Assistant in the Class of Practice of Medicine, and I would be ungrateful were I not to admit in the most cordial terms the great benefit which I have derived from his assistance in the instruction of successive generations of students.

It is evident, therefore, that he is fully equipped for the teaching and for the practice of his profession, and that there is no appointment to which he may not reasonably aspire.

T. M'CALL ANDERSON.

From PROFESSOR SAMSON GEMMELL, M.D.

17 WOODSIDE PLACE,
CHARING CROSS, GLASGOW, *June*, 1907.

DR. WILLIAM R JACK has been well known to me for some years as one of the most distinguished and promising of the younger graduates of Glasgow University. Ever since his graduation he has been intimately associated with the Western Infirmary as Dispensary Physician and Clinical Assistant to Professor McCall Anderson. In these capacities he has to my knowledge done excellent work, and his appointment to the post which he now seeks to secure would be a fitting acknowledgment of his services. He has an extensive and accurate knowledge of disease in almost all its phases, and may be relied on to discharge his duties to the patients with great skill, care, and assiduity. He is, besides, an able expositor, and this cannot fail to render him a valuable addition to the teaching staff of the hospital. Outwith the sphere of his professional work, I know him to be an accomplished gentleman, likely to reflect credit on all who may further his professional aims; and I can recommend him to the Managers of the Western Infirmary as one well worthy of their interest and support.

SAMSON GEMMELL.

From PROFESSOR JOHN G. M'KENDRICK.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW,
10th March, 1905.

I HAVE pleasure in supporting the candidature of DR. WILLIAM R. JACK for the Chair of Practice of Medicine in Anderson's College, vacant by the lamented death of Dr. R. S. Thomson, as in my judgment he has strong claims for such an appointment. His training, both in science and in medicine, has been of a high order. He was a distinguished student; he was the best man of his year in 1889; he has studied abroad, and has become proficient in the French and German languages, an acquirement now absolutely essential to progress in medical science; he has had long experience in Dispensary and Hospital work; and he has acted as an assistant for ten years to my colleague, Professor M'Call Anderson. His Thesis for M.D. on Voluntary Muscular Movements appeared in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*. He is an excellent speaker and lecturer. His qualifications are of such an order that I feel sure he would fill the office he seeks both with dignity and success.

JOHN G. M'KENDRICK.

